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2. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:
a beam generating unit for emitting a laser beam;
a cylindrical lens group for dividing the emitted laser beam in a width direction,
said cylindrical lens group comprising a plurality of cylindrical lenses queuing in said
width direction, each of the cylindrical lenses extending in a longitudinal direction which
is vertical to said width direction; and
an optical system for overlapping divided laser beams,
wherein a width of said cylindrical lens group is narrower than a width of the
emitted laser beam.
3. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:
a beam generating unit for emitting a laser beam;
a cylindrical lens group for dividing the emitted laser beam in a first direction,
said cylindrical lens group comprising a plurality of cylindrical lenses queuing in said first
direction, each of the cylindrical lenses extending in a second direction; and
an optical system for overlapping divided laser beams,
wherein top and bottom cylindrical lenses of said cylindrical lens group are
shielded.
4. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said overlapped laser
beam has a longitudinal shape extending in the second direction.
5. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said overlapped laser
beam has a longitudinal shape extending in the longitudinal direction.
6. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein top and bottom
cylindrical lenses comprise quartz ground glass.
7. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:
a beam generating unit for emitting a laser beam such that a cross section of
said laser beam extends in both width and longitudinal directions;

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a cylindrical lens group for dividing said emitted laser beam in said width direction, said cylindrical lens group comprising a plurality of cylindrical lenses queuing in said width direction, each of the cylindrical lenses extending in said longitudinal direction;

an optical system for overlapping divided laser beams; and
a slit located between said beam generating unit and said cylindrical lens group, for making at least an edge of the emitted laser beam a straight line which is parallel to said longitudinal direction of each cylindrical lens.

10. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:

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a beam generating unit for emitting a laser beam such that a cross section of said laser beam extends in both width and longitudinal directions;

a cylindrical lens group for dividing said emitted laser beam in said width direction, said cylindrical lens group comprising a plurality of cylindrical lenses queuing in said width direction, each of the cylindrical lenses extending in said longitudinal direction;

an optical system for overlapping divided laser beams; and
a slit located between said beam generating unit and said cylindrical lens group, for making at least one longitudinal edge of the emitted laser beam a straight line which is vertical to said width direction of said cylindrical lens group.

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13. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:

a beam generating unit for emitting a laser beam such that a cross section of said laser beam extends in both width and longitudinal directions;

a cylindrical lens group for dividing said laser beam in said width direction;
and

an optical system for overlapping divided laser beams,
wherein top and bottom cylindrical lenses of said cylindrical lens group are shielded for making edges of the emitted laser beam straight lines extending in said longitudinal direction.

14. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said top and bottom cylindrical lenses comprise quartz ground glass.

